STANDARD FORM NO. 64

A/B, 2, 30/2

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Security Branch

DATE: 26 September 1949

FROM : Interrogation Research Section

SUBJECT: Over-All Report on Two Month [redacted] Trip

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The main objective of this trip was to discover whether the Russians or Russian controlled countries are or have in the past been utilizing interrogation and espionage techniques which involve the use of drugs and hypnosis. This office's suspicions of the use of such techniques were brought to a climax by the recent trial of Cardinal Mindszenty.

During this trip, high ranking American occupation officers and officials were contacted in both [redacted] and [redacted]. Numerous informant contacts were made in [redacted]. Many of these informants recently arrived from [redacted] therefore having current and very enlightening information concerning the Mindszenty trial. Visits were also made to the returning Prisoner of War border points throughout [redacted]. Several hundred of these returning P.W.'s were interrogated in hopes of discovering the use of drug or hypnotic techniques on them.

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During the trip, the Polygraph (lie detector) was used in sixteen different cases during which [redacted] were processed. In four different cases, suspected Communist agents were processed by drugs and the establishing of the state of hypnosis for interrogation purposes. (It was interesting to note that Polygraph tests could be run and the hypnotic state could be established and maintained through the use of an interpreter.)

From the contacts made throughout this trip, it can be said with a great deal of certainty that the Russians and several Russian dominated countries are utilizing drug interrogation to a considerable extent and are utilizing hypnosis in special and important instances. These instances seem to involve the trial preparation procedure used in several extremely important espionage trials. As far as can be ascertained from the limited approach made, it would seem that the Russians are not, at this time, utilizing hypnosis operationally in their espionage set up. It is, although, interesting to note that the Russians definitely do possess the know-how of such operations, should they care to utilize these techniques.

It is recommended that steps be taken to create facilities for the susceptibility testing and briefing of certain classes of individuals going overseas. It is further recommended that security validation terms be established for use overseas and that specialists be trained in the use of drugs and operational hypnosis.

A [redacted]